

Appl. No. 10/760,254
Amdt. Dated February 28, 2006
Response to Office Action of December 1, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant thanks Examiner for the detailed Office Action dated December 1, 2005. In response to the issues raised, the Applicant offers the following submissions and amendments.

Amendments

The enclosed amendments to the drawings and description correct minor typographical errors that have come to light while reviewing the specification.

Accordingly, the amendments do not add any new matter.

Drawings

The Examiner has objected to drawings on the grounds that they do not show reference signs 17c and 500 mentioned in the description. On reviewing the specification, the reference sign 17c and 500 do not appear in the description and therefore the drawings should not show them. It is possible that this object was intended for one of the present Assignee's copending applications from the (Assignee's docket) MPA series (see for example USSN 10/760,255).

Please note that amended drawings were filed June 2005.

35 U.S.C. §102 - Claims 1 to 7

Claims 1 to 7 stand rejected for lack of novelty in light of US 6,439,908 to Silverbrook. The Applicant disagrees.

The '908 patent describes the present Assignee's modular pagewidth printhead. Each module 12 has a single printhead chip 18. The modules can be individually removed and replaced so that the entire pagewidth printhead is not scrapped because of nozzle failure in one chip. The individual modules 12 form a sealed fluid connection to the ink reservoir molding 32 which is permanently mounted in the printer. None of the modules 12 carry a pagewidth chip 18.

In contrast, claim 1 defines a printer cartridge that incorporates the ink storage reservoir and printhead IC (chip) into a single unit that is easily removable and replaceable. This requires the entire pagewidth printhead IC to be replaced if nozzle failure starts to produce artifacts in the print. However, this also simplifies the provision of a sealed ink flow path to the nozzles as well as power and print data from the print engine controller (PEC). Skilled workers in this field will appreciate that there is much less risk introducing air bubbles into the ink flow by providing the ink reservoir and pre-primed printhead as a single cartridge unit, instead of attaching modules to self sealing ink outlets as in the '908 disclosure.

Accordingly, '908 does not teach fundamental elements of the claimed invention. The cited assembly does not have a cartridge with a pagewidth printhead and an ink reservoir.

In light of the above, the cited reference fails to anticipate the invention defined by any of claims 1 to 7.

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35 U.S.C. §103 - Claims 8 to 16

Claims 8 to 16 stand rejected as obvious in light of US 6,439,908 to Silverbrook in view of US 6,281,912 to Silverbrook. The Applicant disagrees.

The '912 reference also fails to teach or suggest a printer cartridge that includes both an ink reservoir and the pagewidth printhead. Therefore, as claims 8 to 16 are all directly or indirectly dependant on claim 1, '908 and '912 fail to disclose all the elements defined by any of claims 8 to 16.

Accordingly, the cited references do not support a rejection under the provisions of §103.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been successfully traversed and the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

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